

MINUTES
TOWN OF EAST FISHKILL
TOWN BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 25, 2021
7:00 p.m.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The Town of East Fishkill's Special Town Board Meeting on Police Reform on February 25, 2021 was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor D'Alessandro with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated this has been discussed many times. This was done with all the police departments in Dutchess County. He commended the Police Department for the wonderful job they do. They are one of the only accredited agencies in the County.

Roll Call: Supervisor D'Alessandro asked Town Clerk Carol Hurray, via video, to call the rolls.

Board Members in attendance:

Peter	Thomas	Emanuele	Anil	Nicolas
Cassidy	Franco	Marinero	Beephan	D'Alessandro

Also present: Chief Bellino and Lieutenant Cuccia, East Fishkill Police Department.

Michael Cunningham, Attorney was present via video.

Public Hearing on Police Reform:

Motion to open the Public Hearing on Police Reform and Modernization Collaborative Plan: Board Member Cassidy. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Police Chief Bellino stated the main component of this idea is to hear what the public has to say and if there are any issues that need to be addressed. There was a stakeholders group made of up citizens that worked on this project as well as the Sheriff's Department, City of Poughkeepsie, Marc Molinaro's office and other agencies and Chief Bellino thanked them all. After the stakeholder's group was done with their input, it was broken down by location in the county. He worked with several agencies on this. It was addressing not only problems, but

suggestions from the public as well. The final component of listening to the people is the Public Hearing, which is what is happening now. The plan has been posted for about a month for people to review so they could participate in the hearing.

Supervisor D'Alessandro asked if there was anyone from the public to speak or comment on this.

Robert Grasso asked if this was from the state or federal compliance. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated it is from the Governor of New York.

Tammy Newman stated the EFPD are always kind, courteous, and fair. Rich Newman thanked the Police Department for doing such a good job and having the public feel comfortable.

Attorney Cunningham stated there were some comments made in the chat box on the meeting format that he would allow to become part of the record. They were recommendations for: adoption or creation of an anti-racism policy, social equity office, trauma informed social worker in the department, counseling for police officers and social equity training, trauma informed training, cultural humility training.

Board Member Beephan thanked Chief Bellino for all the work that was done. He stated this will create an open line of communication, although he knows that ability is already there.

Board Member Franco thanked the officers for all their time, both on and off the job.

Board Member Marinaro thanked the Police Department for the great job they do. The community is in support of the department also.

Board Member Cassidy appreciated all the work done on this and the time put into the community.

Mr. Grasso asked if there were any complaints regarding racism and if not, why the department would need anti-racism policies. Chief Bellino said there are no complaints that he is aware of. Chief Bellino stated that in regards to the online comments, the Department has just signed up with an online training academy for those issues being one component. Some officers have just completed trauma training.

Lt. Cuccia stated all officers get over 20 hours of training a year minimum and everyone in the agency is training in crisis intervention, which is a 40 hour class as well.

Board Member Marinaro stated it is falling to our police departments to take care of people who are in desperate need of help.

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated next year will be the 30th year of the department's accreditation.

Motion to close the Public Hearing: Board Member Cassidy. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION
ADOPTING POLICE REFORM AND MODERNIZATION COLLABORATIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, Town Board has held a public hearing to consider a Police Reform Plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board has held such a Public Hearing and a full discussion has been had; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Town Board does hereby adopt the Police Reform and Modernization Collaborative Plan as submitted.

Motion to approve the East Fishkill Police Reform Modernization Collaborative Plan: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Beephan. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated there were two resolutions from the floor.

Resolutions:

Addition of Deputy Supervisor, Town Engineer, and Highway Superintendent to the Committee for NYS Bridge and Culvert Grant

WHEREAS, The Town Supervisor has received proposals from consulting civil engineering firms from the Region 8 LDSA list to assist in preparing an application for funding under the Bridge NY Program with respect to replacing the Hillside Lake Road Culvert; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, since the purpose of this inquiry is to replace the Hillside Lake Road Culvert a committee must be formed to select a consulting firm; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Town Board does hereby authorize to form such committee and that the committee will consist of a Town Engineer, Highway Superintendent and Deputy Town Supervisor.

Motion to add the Deputy Supervisor, Town Engineer, and Highway Superintendent to the committee for the New York State Bridge and Culvert Grant: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Beephan. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

**Allow Four Homes on Baris Lane to Hook up to the Hopewell
North Water System**

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency is requested that 4 residences within the Hopewell North Water District be taken off line once the new water connection is made; and

WHEREAS, at the request of the EPA the following addresses will be taken off line once the new water connection is made. Below are the addresses to be affected; and

5 Baris Lane
6 Baris Lane
7 Baris Lane
8 Baris Lane

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby approve the EPA's request for the above named addresses be taken off line and approve their respective connections.

Motion to allow #5, #6, #7, and #8 Baris Lane to be hooked up to the Hopewell North Water System: Board Member Cassidy. Seconded: Board Member Beephan. All vote in favor. Motion carried.

Motion for Adjournment: Time: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 PM: Board Member Cassidy. Seconded: Board Member Beephan. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Town Board Meetings: Workshop/SH on Altice/Optimum: March 11, 2021
Regular Meeting: March 25, 2021

Respectfully submitted by Julie J. Beyer on behalf of Town Clerk Carol A. Hurray
– March 1, 2021